



ALAMEDA COUNTY CONGESTION MANAGEMENT AGENCY

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Transportation Update

January 2004

CMA Adopts Final 2004 State Transportation Improvement Program Submittal

At the January Board meeting, the CMA adopted a final program of projects for the 2004 STIP. No new projects have been added to the STIP, and existing STIP projects have been stretched over a longer time period – many projects experiencing a 2 to 3 year delay. The economy, borrowing by the State's general fund, suspension of Proposition 42, ethanol impacts on gas tax receipts, and other events have combined to reduce funding for transportation investment and trigger these delays. If further suspensions of Proposition 42 are enacted in future State budgets, projects will need to be removed from the STIP. Alameda County's transportation sales tax, Measure B, has cushioned the blow by allowing selected projects to proceed with Measure funding. As a companion to the 2004 STIP, the CMA also approved funding for several projects through its exchange program. The exchange program was developed to allow projects needing local funding to proceed without State or federal hurdles and is becoming increasingly important during the current State budget crisis.

The program of projects in Alameda County totals nearly \$200 million when the STIP and CMA exchange program are combined. Many of these projects also have Measure B funding through either the old or new sales tax program. The STIP and CMA program includes:

- Various rehabilitation projects for AC Transit and BART
- A carpool lane gap closure on I-880 in Fremont at Mission Blvd.
- I-238 widening in the Hayward area
- The BART Oakland Airport Connector

- Route 84 improvements in Fremont and Union City
- Funding for continued development of the BART Warm Springs Extension
- The I-680 Sunol Grade carpool lane
- The West Dublin BART station
- Highway noise barriers in various locations
- Various transit centers
- Various local road projects

Copies of the program can be obtained at the CMA offices or on the CMA's web site.

2003 Congestion Management Program Adopted

The final 2003 CMP was adopted at the CMA Board meeting on January 29, 2004. Copies of the document are available at the CMA offices, in libraries and on the CMA's web site.

Governor's Proposed Budget Hits Transportation Funding

The Governor's budget proposes several cuts in transportation funding and changes to transportation programs. Some highlights follow:

- Suspend the Proposition 42 transfer of \$1.1 billion to transportation. This action cuts anticipated funding for the Traffic Congestion Relief Program (TCRP), local street and road maintenance projects, STIP projects, and transit.
- Repeal the TCRP project list. BT&H Secretary Sunne McPeak has stated that it is not the Administration's intent to simply abolish the TRCP list, but to review the status of each project, calculate the amount of funds currently encumbered, and determine the economic impact of the project before deciding its fate.

- Repeal legislation placing a \$10 billion high-speed rail bond on the November 2004 ballot. The Administration believes, given the amount of debt on the March ballot as well as bonds awaiting sale, that this is not the appropriate time to ask the voters to incur additional debt.
- Switch the accounting method used to allocate federal funding authority to local projects to a cash management basis. This would “free-up” \$800 million for State determined priorities, but would create an \$800 million debt to local projects. This proposal places local governments at the mercy of Caltrans and the Department of Finance for local street and road rehabilitation funds. The Governor proposes to use the \$800 million as the source for a \$200 million loan to the general fund, \$406 million would be used for debt service on seismic retrofit bonds, and the remaining \$194 million would be placed in the State Highway Account.
- Examine linking the allocation of transportation funds with housing production. Secretary McPeak stated that transportation projects will not only be evaluated based on economic impact but also on a local jurisdiction’s commitment to provide housing for existing and future workforce.

Project “At Risk” Report Available

A report on the status of state and federally funded projects in Alameda County was presented to the CMA in January. This report indicates which projects need attention in order to meet the state and federal deadlines. Copies are available from the CMA offices.

CMA Retreat to be Held

The CMA Board has scheduled its annual retreat for Saturday, February 7, 2004 at the Waterfront Hotel in Oakland. The topic will be transportation funding in tight fiscal times. State Secretary of Business, Transportation & Housing Sunne McPeak and MTC Executive Director Steve

Heminger have been invited to address the Board.

Deadlines to Note

2004 Countywide Transportation Plan (CWTP) & 2005 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

<i>Draft CWTP</i>	<i>April 2004</i>
<i>Final CWTP</i>	<i>May 2004</i>
<i>Draft RTP</i>	<i>December 2004</i>
<i>Final RTP</i>	<i>January 2005</i>

Transportation Fund for Clean Air (TFCA): Program Manager Funds – Guarantee Program

Approximately \$1.27 million is available.

<i>Draft Program</i>	<i>March 2004</i>
<i>Final Program</i>	<i>April 2004</i>

2004 State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

<i>MTC Program to CTC</i>	<i>March 22, 2004</i>
<i>CTC Adopts 2004 STIP</i>	<i>August 5, 2004</i>

Upcoming Meetings

<i>February</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>CMA Technical Advisory Committee</i>
	<i>7</i>	<i>CMA Board Retreat</i>
	<i>9</i>	<i>CMA Administration & Legislation Committee</i>
	<i>9</i>	<i>CMA Plans & Programs Committee</i>
	<i>25/26</i>	<i>CTC (Sacramento)</i>
	<i>26</i>	<i>CMA Board Meeting</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>CMA Technical Advisory Committee</i>
	<i>15</i>	<i>CMA Administration & Legislation Committee</i>
	<i>15</i>	<i>CMA Plans & Programs Committee</i>
	<i>25</i>	<i>CMA Board Meeting</i>

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